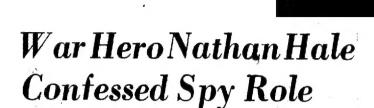
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Revolutionary War hero, was the exigencies of my country a confessed spy who made a claims to perform that service its claims to perform that service are imperious." his name, rank, and purpose Hale, then barely 21, was when captured by the British disguised as a Dutch schoolhis name, rank, and purpose Agency has fully exonerated British camp, made sketches Francis Gary Powers, history and notes, and was captured has fully exonerated Hale and while making his return on remembers his last defiant Sept. 21. words as a ringing call to patriotism.

life to lose for my country."

Contemporary accounts reveal that Hale, once he was caught with the spy goods of sketches and notes on his person, told of his mission and wrote in his diary, behaved "his being employed by Mr. Washington." His full admis-resolution." sion, the accounts also show, was viewed as an act of reso-lute patriotism and defiance Hale's "own full confession"

sion behind the Revolutionary War officer's decision to spyness in peace as in war.

Hale was an officer in Washington and Congress." Knowlton's Rangers in 1775

Nathan Hale, the American ness. Hale answered him: "If

If the Central Intelligence master. He passed into the

He was hanged the next morning without trial as a As he stood on the gallows, "spy from the Enemy (by his Hale's words were: "I only own till confession)," accordregret that I have but one ing to the British military or-

der. ot i Lt. of rederick MacKenzie, like Hull, viewed Hale as a brave man for his actions after his capture. Hale, MacKenzie

A biographer of Hale, Henry once he was confronted with only went to prove his patri-the evidence. otic character. The British, From the manuscripts of Johnston writes, used the Gen. William Hull, a close phrase "doubtless to present friend of Hale, comes a vivid it not only as a clear but also phrase "doubtless to present account of the agonizing deci- as an aggravated case, illustrating the American method of warfare, in which spies cona delicate and dangerous busi-fessed to their employment, and thus indirectly implicating

But, Johnson when he volunteered to spy Hale came out of it as a brave on British forces on Long opponent - "no explanation. Island. Hull recalls in his no evasion, . . no cowardly memoirs how he warned Hale cry for pardon could come that spying was a haterul busi- from him